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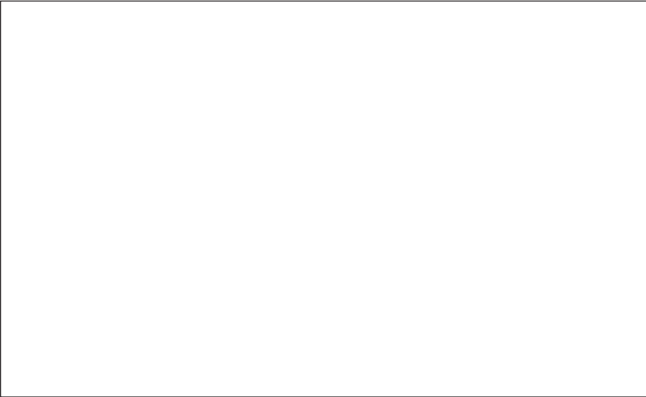
THURSDAY DECEMBER 18, 2003

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I N S I D E


Local

WEATHER FORECAST




PICTURE TIME: 2:25 A.M., DECEMBER 17, 2003
Western North Pacific between Equator and 25N from 130E to 180.


A monsoon trough extends from 6N130E through a tropical disturbance near 8N145E and finally to near 5N160E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms associated with the disturbance are found in the Mariana islands as well as between Yap and Chuuk or between 4N and 16N from 139E to 153E. Just east of the monsoon trough, a surface trough of low pressure continues to near the equator at 168E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are developing north and east of the trough or within 100 miles either side of a line from 9N160E to the equator at 173E, including Kosrae. Trade-wind convergence is producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms across portions of the Marshall islands, between 4N and 16N from 170E to 180.




SAIPAN AND TINIAN
Cloudy and breezy with scattered showers, some locally heavy, and a slight chance of thunderstorms.
Winds: East at 20-25 mph. Gusting in 35 mph in showers.
Temperature: Lows near 78. Highs near 86.




GUAM AND ROTA
Cloudy and breezy with scattered showers, some locally heavy, and a slight chance of thunderstorms.
Winds: East at 20-25 mph. Gusting in 35 mph in showers.
Temperature: Lows near 78. Highs near 86.




PALAU
Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
Winds: Northeast at 10 kt.




POHNPEI
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.
Winds: East at 10 kt.




YAP AND ULITHI
Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
Winds: Northeast at 10 kt.






















KOSRAE
Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
Winds: Southeast at 10 kt.



CHUUK
Mostly cloudy with scattered showers with a slight chance of thunderstorms.
Winds: Northeast at 10-15 kt.



MAJURO
Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms.
Winds: East at 10-15 kt.

CITY	FORECAST	HIGH	LOW
 Auckland	Cloudy	61F (16C)	49F (9C)
 Beijing	Sunny	44F (7C)	26F (-3C)
 Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	74F (23C)	61F (16C)
 Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	86F (30C)	72F (22C)
 London, England	Cloudy	56F (13C)	45F (7C)
 Los Angeles	Cloudy	69F (21C)	51F (11C)
 Manila	Cloudy	88F (31C)	71F (22C)
 Melbourne	Sunny	73F (23C)	54F (12C)
 Miami	Partly Cloudy	84F (29C)	75F (24C)
 New York, NY	Cloudy	52F (11C)	48F (9C)
 Osaka	Rain	54F (12C)	46F (8C)
 Paris	Cloudy	53F (12C)	41F (5C)
 Pusan	Rain	58F (14C)	43F (6C)
 Rome	Partly Cloudy	55F (13C)	39F (4C)
 Salem, Oregon	Rain	54F (12C)	38F (3C)
 San Francisco	Sunny	64F (18C)	47F (5C)
 Seoul	Rain	52F (11C)	45F (7C)
 Tokyo	Rain	55F (13C)	49F (9C)
 Washington, DC	Cloudy	60F (16C)	48F (9C)

OPA highlights Ethics Act in SCC meeting

As part of efforts to prevent problems before they arise, Public Auditor Michael S. Sablan spoke before the Saipan Chamber of Commerce yesterday about the CNMI Ethics Act and how it relates to the private sector when interacting with government employees and officials.

This forms part of a wider effort on the part of the Office of the Public Auditor in reaching out to government workers and the private sector on what constitutes a violation of the Act and how to avoid them.

"Ethics is basically knowing what's right and wrong and deciding to do what's correct," he said.

According to Sablan, the CNMI Ethics Act is among the strictest in the entire country, so his presentation focused on the special restrictions on disallowed gifts from businesses, illegal political activities in government offices, and conflicts of interest between public responsibilities and private business interests.

"We would rather reach out and inform them [government employees] before employees get in trouble," he said.

Sablan told Chamber members that the Act also applied to business people when they interact with government workers, so a large part of his presentation dealt with acceptable and unacceptable gifts for government workers.

"Where public officials are prohibited from accepting certain gifts, private businesses are also prohibited from offering certain gifts," he stressed.

Chamber president Alex Sablan underscored the value of the presentation, saying, "We felt this was an important presentation to start the beginning of the year as it would help level the playing field."

The issue of gifts is a particularly thorny one, said Sablan, because of the local culture where it is impolite to decline gifts. "We get a lot of calls about gifts," he added.

Included among unacceptable gifts are:

- Cash gifts given anonymously;
- Where official acts may be influenced;
- Gifts from someone being regulated;
- Gifts from someone doing business with the government, particularly entities that earn \$5,000 or more a year.

Gifts that are considered acceptable, he said, are:

- Non-cash with a value of less than \$50;
- Non-cash, provided that the gifts are occasional;
- Not anonymous;
- Not from someone being regulated or doing business with the government.

The OPA has conducted about 101 presentations so far to some

3,500 government employees in the last two years.

Sablan expressed hope that expanding greater awareness of the CNMI Ethics Act to the private sector will promote greater trust and confidence in public service and accountability.

He urged Chamber members to visit the OPA's website—www.opa.cnmi.com—for more information.

Wednesday's meeting was

the Chamber's first during of the year. It was held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel.

Besides Sablan's presentation, the meeting also featured the introduction of the newest members to the Chamber. These are the Marianas Public Lands Authority and Infosite Server. Both of the members were provided their membership portfolio, which includes the bylaws, code of ethics, and the membership

directory of the Chamber.

The SCC is comprised of about 140 members and seven committees. Each committee chairperson will outline their goals and objectives for the year and will invite Chamber members to be a part of the committee. This year's committee chairpersons are Mike Schadeck for the Armed Forces committee; Jeff Boyer, who will co-chair the Environmental committee; Scott Norman, who



Sablan

will once again chair the Education committee; Jay Jones and Juan Guerrero; who will spearhead the Government Relation and Economic Development committee; Charles Cepeda, who will direct the Events committee, while Alex Sablan will take the lead for the newly established public/private efficiency committee.

The Chamber's meeting is held the first Wednesday of every month.

\$40M bond underwriter to visit Saipan

The underwriter for the \$40-million bond issue meant to address longstanding land compensation claims is expected to pay the CNMI a visit next week, the Commonwealth Development Authority told legislators this week.

Sean Keatts, vice president of the Lehman Bros. is scheduled to be on Saipan from Feb. 12-13 for a courtesy call.

CDA Executive Director MaryLou S. Ada informed Legislature members that Keatts wishes to convey his appreciation for the CNMI officials' efforts in issuing the \$40 million bond for land compensation claims.

Senate President Joaquin G. Adriano has advised members of the upper house to attend a meeting with CDA officials and Keatts next Thursday, Feb. 12 starting 3pm at the Senate Chamber.

CDA successfully issued the \$40 million General Obligation bonds last December, authorized by Public Law 13-17, as amended.

According to the development authority, the \$40-million general obligation bonds, Series 2003A received a rating of Ba3 from Moody's Investors Services and B+ from Standard & Poors on Nov. 26, 2003.

Maturing on October 1, 2033 with an interest rate of 6.750

percent, the bonds were sold to Lehman Bros.-the underwriters-on December 4, 2003.

Proceeds of the \$40-million general obligation bond issue will be used to pay for certain parcels and other private real property taken by the government for public roads, highways, as well as to fund the construction of the Adult Correctional Facility as provided in the Bond Act.

CDA had announced that the payout to landowners is underway, to be released possibly this week or next week.

Board chairman Sixto Igisomar said that he and the CDA executive director had signed

the request for the first draw-down of the bond money at Bank of Guam last Thursday.

Although Igisomar declined to reveal the initial withdrawal, sources said that it amounts to some \$5 million.

Igisomar said the initial release should have actually taken place last week but CDA officials were on an urgent trip to Palau.

The MPLA board earlier approved 75 folders for immediate land compensation after the signing and release of the \$40-million bond.

Of the total amount, only about \$27 million will be used for land compensation since \$11 million has been allotted

for a pending prison project. The bond underwriter also deducted \$1.5 million for cost of the bond issuance.

The government is given 30 years to pay off the loan at an annual interest of 6.75 percent.

The first batch of claimants are landowners whose lands were acquired by the CNMI government for rights-of-way. The next would be those whose lands were acquired for ponding basins. Lastly, the government will settle with landowners of wetlands and other claims. The MPLA has listed some 120 eligible land claimants in the CNMI. *(Marian A. Maraya)*

cars unlimited

Opinion

Saipan Tribune

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EDITORIAL

SGMA to meet with lawmakers

The Saipan Garment Manufacturers Association will make a presentation this Friday on the state of the garment industry to CNMI House and Senate members.

The report highlights the industry's economics, strides made in efforts to address various concerns and challenges facing the sector.

Senate President Joaquin G. Adriano and House Speaker Benigno R. Fitial have agreed to convene and meet SGMA officials to discuss the "State of the Saipan Garment Industry" at Aqua Resort Club's Raraina Restaurant.

The luncheon event will be held on Feb. 13, Friday.

Immediately after the meeting, the lawmakers and SGMA officials will tour Top Fashion Inc., a garment factory in Tanapag for a closer look into the industry.

"We know that a number of members of the Legislature have stated that they have never actually toured any of the Saipan garment factory and seen its operations, and we would like to accommodate their requests," said SGMA executive director Richard A. Pierce.

"With this luncheon presentation and factory tour, we are confident that we will have done most of what we can to illustrate our industry, which hopefully will allow for our respected elected leaders to make their best educated decisions on legislative matters affecting our operations, and how those decisions may affect the CNMI economy," Pierce said.

SHRM to tackle 'stateless' issue

The Society for Human Resources Management has invited Northern Marianas College instructor Sam McPhetres to speak at the monthly SHRM meeting at the Hyatt Regency Saipan on February 19, 2004, from 11:30am to 1:15pm.

McPhetres will speak about stateless citizens—those who were born in the Northern Marianas by parents who were legal aliens between 1978 and 1986, the transition period of the Covenant agreement signed in 1978 and the conferment of Presidential Proclamation No. 5564 by President Ronald Reagan in 1986.

Randy Mendoza, a stateless citizen himself, will also address the issue. It is estimated that the Commonwealth has approximately 300 individuals with stateless citizenship status.

The meeting will be \$15 for SHRM members and \$20 for non-SHRM members. Lunch is included in the cost. Seating is limited; therefore members and others interested in attending this meeting should contact Kim or Gil at 234-1234 ext. 5402/5415 or send reservations via fax at 233-0182.



Pierce

'Economic activities continue to drop'

The Saipan Garment Manufacturers Association issued a recent sales and tax revenue report to the public, showing that economic activity continues to drop at a rate predicted by industry leaders last year.

January 2004 sales and user fee payments dropped 13.36 percent from December 2003 figures, while January sales figures were down by 15.8 percent from January 2003.

Sales and user fee payments to the CNMI government dropped another 3 percent in the first four months of this fiscal year from 2003. Prior reports showed that 2003 totals were down 3.3 percent from 2002; 17.5 percent

from 2001; 21.8 percent from 2000; and 25.1 percent from 1999—the industry's peak year in sales.

"There's just no way around it. The industry's production in volume has only dipped due to manpower restrictions imposed locally, but the real factor is the market we compete in. Our selling prices continue to drop and that's why all the sales figures and tax contributions are down, and continuing down," said Richard A. Pierce, SGMA executive director.

"In theory, we would have to increase our workforce by approximately 20 percent working in the factories to generate as much tax revenue to the CNMI as we

did in 1999 and 2000, and some of the factories are screaming for additional workers because right now volume is the only way out of the hole that's appearing," Pierce added.

"But our competitiveness is the deciding factor. This is why we are asking for help from our government in addressing the value-added issue of our tariff treatment for sales to the mainland. This truly will keep the industry healthier and better able to withstand the global market change due at the end of 2004. With an increase in margins, volume becomes less critical when it comes to survivability," he said.

mobil



Business

Witness: Broker ordered tip for Stewart

By **ERIN McCLAM**
AP WRITER

A former brokerage assistant testified Tuesday that his boss ordered him to pass a secret tip to Martha Stewart that led the style maven to trigger her well-timed sale of ImClone Systems stock.

Douglas Faneuil, the government's star witness in the case, said broker Peter Bacanovic ordered him to alert Stewart on Dec. 27, 2001, that the family of ImClone founder Sam Waksal was dumping its shares.

Faneuil said he told Bacanovic, who was on vacation in Florida, about a flurry of selling by the Waksals that morning. He said Bacanovic blurted out: "Oh my God, get Martha on the phone."

Waksal later admitted that he had advance knowledge that the Food and Drug Administration

was about to refuse to review an ImClone drug application - a decision that sent the stock on a sharp decline. Waksal is now serving a prison term of more than seven years.

Faneuil, who was manning Bacanovic's desk at Merrill Lynch & Co. on Dec. 27, testified that he took calls before 10 a.m. from Waksal's accountant and Waksal's two daughters - all demanding that Faneuil sell their ImClone shares.

He said he spoke to Bacanovic, who left a message for Stewart and then ordered Faneuil to tell her of the Waksal sell-off when she called back. Faneuil said he asked his boss whether passing the tip would be appropriate.

"Of course. You must," he said Bacanovic replied. "That's the whole point."

Stewart was unavailable and on her way to a vacation

in Mexico. But she called later in the day and ordered her entire stable of 3,928 shares of ImClone to be sold, the prosecution contends.

The government claims Stewart and Bacanovic cooked up a false story and repeatedly lied to investigators, saying they had a pre-existing arrangement to sell ImClone when it fell to \$60 per share.

Stewart is charged with obstruction of justice, securities fraud and other counts that carry a total of 30 years of prison time. Bacanovic faces up to 25 years if convicted of perjury, conspiracy and other charges. Both would likely get lighter sentences under federal guidelines if convicted.

The testimony of Faneuil, a lanky 28-year-old who was soft-spoken in his answers on the stand, is the most critical piece of the



Martha Stewart, left, arrives at Manhattan federal court followed by her daughter Alexis, Tuesday, Feb. 3, 2004, in New York.

puzzle that the government says implicates Stewart.

His testimony was delayed by five days after the judge penalized prosecutors for being too slow in turning over an FBI document that defense attorneys say raises questions about Faneuil's credibility.

When court recessed Tuesday, Faneuil had not reached the point in his testimony where he was expected to say he actually told Stewart the Waksals were selling. While Faneuil testified in general terms about improperly passing information from one client to another, details of his exchange with Stewart are expected to come out Wednesday morning.

Lawyers for Bacanovic and Stewart are carefully planning a strategy for Faneuil's cross-examination, which could begin as early as Wednesday. Faneuil had initially supported Bacanovic and Stewart's story, but changed his story in a 2002 plea deal with prosecutors.

The defense is expected to argue that Faneuil was willing to lie to the government to get out of prosecution for his involvement in the ImClone sale.

Airport security firm accused of bribery

By **JEFFREY GOLD**
AP WRITER

A security company with contracts to protect New York-area airports, bridges and tunnels has been charged with paying bribes to get work and hiring dozens of employees with criminal records.

Haynes Security Inc. and its president, John D'Agostino, were charged with theft, bribery and conspiracy in an indictment announced Tuesday.

Among the allegations: Haynes paid more than \$1,000 in August 2001 for repairs at the home of a Continental Airlines manager in return for consideration for a contract at the Newark airport. No charges were brought against any Continental employees.

The security company was also accused of failing to submit employee fingerprints to police as required by law.

Since 1999, Haynes has held \$12 million in annual contracts to provide security at Newark, Kennedy and LaGuardia airports in New York, as well as the Holland and Lincoln tunnels and the George Washington Bridge.

Those contracts are now under review.

"We need to ensure the highest level of safety, security and service," said Pasquale DiFulco, a spokesman for the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, which oversees the facilities.

Haynes no longer handles airport passenger screening, which is now overseen by the federal Transportation Security Administration. But the company's unarmed guards still provide security in other parts of the airports, including patrolling

parking lots and checking the identification of vehicles entering runways.

Haynes lawyer Seth T. Taube said the company has cooperated fully in the investigation.

"This is nonsense. The state is desperate for political corruption cases, and this is their way of squeezing Haynes Security to make up stories about politicians," Taube said.

Investigators said Haynes hired 27 convicted criminals—who are barred from holding security posts—to work at the airport and for the state's largest utility, Pub-

lic Service Electric & Gas. After learning of the investigation, the company sent thousands of fingerprints to state police for review, authorities said.

Also indicted was Benjamin R. Riggi, a former PSE&G manager was accused of accepting a \$7,500 bribe in 2002 to approve Haynes' contract with the utility. Riggi has an unpublished number and could not immediately be reached for comment.

Haynes provided security at the utility's Newark headquarters, and for workers at street-repair sites.

cuc meet

civil service

Stocks stall on terror fears; Dow up 6

By MEG RICHARDS
AP BUSINESS WRITER

Stocks stalled for a second straight session Tuesday, this time because of renewed terrorism fears after the discovery of the toxic powder ricin forced the closure of all Senate buildings in the nation's Capitol.

With few buyers and sellers in the market, trading was volatile and the major indexes alternated between gains and losses, ending the day fractionally higher. The absence of broad-based selling led most traders to believe there had been only limited reaction to the ricin concerns.

"I don't think you can really attribute the choppiness to that," said Brian Williamson, an equity trader at The Boston

Company Asset Management. "I think there aren't a lot of stories out there in general about the economy and stocks themselves, so that slows things down a little bit."

The Dow Jones industrial average ended the day up 6.00, or 0.1 percent, at 10,505.18.

The broader gauges were also narrowly higher. The Nasdaq composite index gained 3.06, or 0.2 percent, to close at 2,066.21, after five days of declines. The Standard & Poor's 500 index edged up 0.77, or 0.1 percent, to close at 1,136.03.

The discovery of a suspicious, powdery white substance in a Capitol Hill office late Monday raised new concerns about terrorism on domestic soil and invoked memories of the anthrax attacks of 2001. The powder

later tested positive as ricin, and all Senate office buildings were closed Tuesday.

The dollar was weaker against most other currencies Tuesday as security concerns reverberated, and bonds moved higher. Gold prices rose.

As the last major fourth-quarter earnings trickled in, investors were trying to determine whether the largely positive results meshed with economic data. Some analysts said the market was still feeling the impact of last week's statement from the Federal Reserve, which many interpreted as a signal that interest rates could rise sooner rather than later.

"We've seen the market take on a different personality day by day," said Stuart Freeman, chief equity strategist for A.G.

Edwards & Sons. "But I think the biggest issue on the minds of investors is when is the Fed going to raise rates and when is the market going to rotate more in terms of sectors."

There have been hints that investors are slowly shifting their focus away from more speculative small-cap and tech stocks and into less risky, high-value blue chips, but there has not been a strong movement in that direction.

Gainers on the tech-heavy Nasdaq index included Cisco Systems, which closed 21 cents higher at \$26.41 after Sanford Bernstein raised its rating on the leading maker of routers and switches to a "market perform" ahead of its earnings announcement.

Cisco's results, reported after the market closed, beat

Wall Street's expectations by a penny a share on strong sales, but the networking company's stock slid more than 4 percent in after-hours trading. Cisco's performance has been widely watched as an indicator of corporate technology spending.

Decliners slightly outnumbered advancers on the New York Stock Exchange. Consolidated volume was moderate, with 1.93 billion shares traded, compared with 2.05 billion on Monday.

The Russell 2000 index, which tracks smaller company stocks, lost 1.39, or 0.2 percent, to 579.15.

Overseas, Japan's Nikkei stock average finished 1.25 percent lower Tuesday. In Europe, France's CAC-40 lost 0.7 percent, Britain's FTSE 100 gained 0.2 percent and Germany's DAX index closed down 0.4 percent.



Fashion designer Richard Tyler and Delta Airlines vice president consumer marketing Patrice Miles share a laugh as they speak to reporters after a news conference in Atlanta, Tuesday, Feb. 3, 2004.

Delta orders classier, sexier uniforms

By HARRY R. WEBER
AP BUSINESS WRITER

Cash-strapped Delta Air Lines has ordered up a makeover of its employee uniforms, hiring a big-name designer who promises a classier—and in some cases, sexier—look for flight attendants, airport agents and other workers.

The carrier said Tuesday that designer Richard Tyler, whose dresses have been worn by stars such as Julia Roberts, Heather Locklear and Jamie Lee Curtis, will be overseeing the uniform change.

"I want them to look sexy and great, but you have to keep that classic look as well," Tyler said in an interview with The Associated Press.

All Delta would say about the new uniforms, to debut in 2006, is that they will be better fitting and more durable. Their color, currently gray, could also change.

The Atlanta-based airline refused to say how much the project will cost—a new outfit Tyler created for actor Pierce Brosnan cost \$3,500—or give specifics about the design. No mannequins or pictures were displayed at a news conference announcing the project.

The potentially expensive move comes amid months of cost-cutting initiatives at Delta, which has lost more than \$3 billion in three years and laid off 16,000 employees since the 2001 terrorist attacks.

Andrea Taylor, a Delta flight attendant and union advocate from New York, said she has concerns about money being spent on new uniforms in light of pay and benefit cuts.

"That money would be much better spent supporting the livelihood of Delta flight attendants," she said.

But Taylor acknowledged the current uniforms are not exactly

fashion-forward. "We have been referred to as prison wardens wearing them," she said.

Delta officials said the decision to redesign uniforms is a "wise investment" that will boost morale among employees and increase the airline's bottom line in the long run.

Uniforms for flight attendants, gate and ticket agents and airport lounge officials will get a complete makeover—from their shirts or blouses to their pants, gloves, hats and scarves. Technical operations workers, maintenance crews and baggage handlers will see minor changes in their outfits.

As many as 35,000 of the airline's 60,000 employees will be affected. Delta's pilots, locked in a protracted battle with management over wage concessions, are a notable exception. Their uniforms, which have not changed substantially in decades, will not be redesigned.

Ford, GM post lower sales as Toyota gains

By SARAH KARUSH
AP WRITER

Sales of new cars and trucks fell more than expected in January at the nation's two largest automakers, with market leader General Motors Corp. posting a 1.8 percent decline and rival Ford Motor Co. reporting a 9.8 percent drop.

While the big U.S. automakers were struggling to explain their declines, Toyota Motor Corp. was reporting a 15.8 percent boost in U.S. sales, and Daimler-Chrysler posted sales that were 9.4 percent higher.

GM said Tuesday that it was disappointed with the results but maintained its outlook for the year. Ford, the nation's second biggest automaker, said it remained optimistic a lineup of new cars would change its fortunes.

Analysts expected January sales results to be tempered by frigid weather in parts of the country, despite brisk business at the beginning of the month.

Both GM and Ford saw the biggest declines in their car sales, with GM's car sales down 16.8 percent and car sales for the Ford, Lincoln and Mercury brands falling 20.1 percent. Chrysler's car sales also fell, declining 23.2 percent.

GM's truck sales were up 12.8 percent. Ford's truck sales fell 4.7 percent, despite the continuing success of its F-150 pickup. Chrysler sold 21.5 percent more trucks than in the previous January.

"January sales results were below expectations,"

said John Smith, GM's vice president for North American sales, service and marketing. "While we had good results in some divisions ... a new industry record in sport utility sales and strong truck sales overall, car sales and sales in certain regions were disappointing."

Jim O'Connor, Ford's vice president for North American marketing, sales and service, expressed confidence that the company's car models would yield results by the end of 2004.

"We're committed to pursuing a product and market strategy that will result in stronger retail sales performance," O'Connor said in a statement. "Today we are benefiting from the all-new F-150 and a strong lineup of sport utility vehicles. By year end, we expect to see stronger retail performance in passenger cars."

Ford's F-series trucks posted record January sales of 61,979, up 9.6 percent.

"The most painful declines from the standpoint of our overall performance are the midsize cars - the Ford Taurus and the Mercury Sable," Ford sales analyst George Pipas said in a conference call with investors. "Painful in the sense that mid-size cars still represent about 20 percent of total new vehicle sales in the United States."

Taurus sales fell 26.6 percent, and Sable sales were down 47.1 percent.

But Pipas said "help is on the way" in the form of two new mid-size sedans, the Ford Five Hundred and the Mercury Montego.

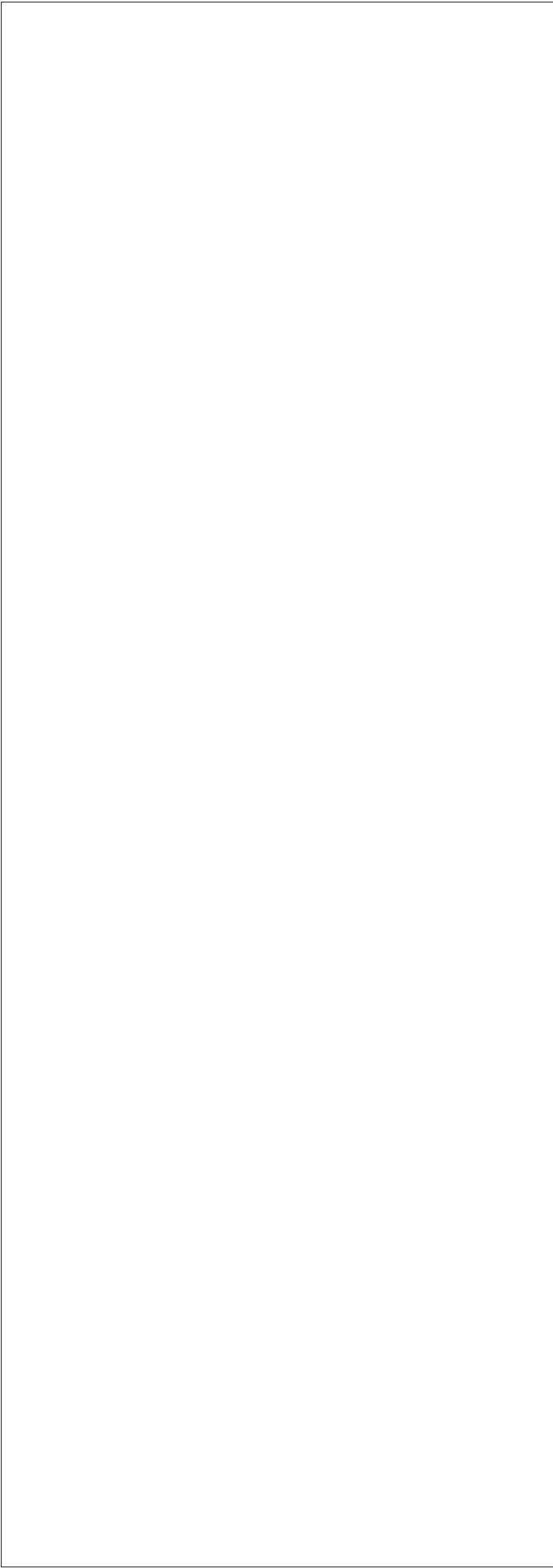
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ASIA PACIFIC	UP 1.25
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LEADING INDICATORS	
DOW	10,505.18 +6.00
NASDAQ	2,066.21 +3.06
S&P	1,136.03 +0.77
INDUSTRY MARKET	
Automotive	UP 1.25
Banking	UP 1.25
Chemicals	UP 1.25
Energy	UP 1.25
Food	UP 1.25
Healthcare	UP 1.25
Technology	UP 1.25
Telecom	UP 1.25
Transportation	UP 1.25
Utilities	UP 1.25
Other	UP 1.25





World

Life & Style



Five-year-olds girls should not be walking home alone

By AVIGAIL VAN BUREN

DEAR ABBY: When my husband or I pick up our 7-year-old daughter at school—seven blocks from our home—we often see two 5-year-old girls who attend the same school. They walk the whole way home by themselves and pass our block every day. There are major intersections they must cross to get home. My daughter tells me that sometimes they don’t look before stepping into the street. At one intersection, the light changes before you can reach the other sidewalk, and even I have to run before the traffic starts moving.



Dear Abby

I am afraid for these children. Other parents have mentioned seeing them navigating the streets alone. To me that means there could be a predator watching, too.

On the days that my husband or I walk, we wouldn’t mind inviting these little ones to walk with us. I want to give their guardians a note saying so, but the girls were probably told not to talk to strangers. I don’t want a predator to see me talking to the children and realize there is no one protecting them.

Please tell me what I should do.

AFRAID FOR THE CHILDREN

DEAR AFRAID: You have every reason to be concerned. It frightens me to hear about two 5-year-olds walking home without supervision. Talk to the school principal about this so he or she can contact the parents. If that doesn’t solve the problem, report it to the police. It is child endangerment.

DEAR ABBY: Last February, my husband suffered an anoxic brain injury—lack of oxygen to the brain. Needless to say, he is no longer the man he was.

Our friends have all disappeared. They tell me it’s hard for them to see him like this. How do they think I feel?

Am I wrong to feel hurt? I don’t understand why they can’t even call. Talking has always been an outlet for me, but no one ever calls me anymore. No one knows how someone else feels until they’ve been there, but what happened to, “I’ll be there for you,” or “Call if you need me”? I wouldn’t ask them for anything but conversation.

Is it normal for people to avoid friends when they are in trouble or pain?

FRIENDLESS IN GEORGIA

DEAR FRIENDLESS: It’s human, it’s common—but it’s cowardly. You have my sympathy, but it’s time you stopped waiting for calls that never come and do something on your own behalf. Rather than dwelling on how these supposed “friends” have let you down, your time would be better spent with a caregiver support group. You’ll find you have much in common. Locate one by calling the National Family Caregivers Association, toll-free, at (800) 896-3650, or visiting the Web site at www.nfcares.org. There is also an organization called Faith in Action that offers respite care to caregivers like yourself. The toll-free number is (877) 324-8411. Adult day care for your husband could give you some much-needed time to rest and rejuvenate. Please consider it.

DEAR ABBY: Once you have been married and then divorced, must you always check “divorced” when filling out forms? Or is there a time when you can go back to “single”?

STEPHANIE IN GAINESVILLE, FLA.

DEAR STEPHANIE: I’m not sure what kinds of forms you’re referring to. Frankly, I find the question presumptuous, and I don’t see why either has to be marked—unless it’s for something like an insurance form or a background check.


Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable—and most frequently requested—poems and essays, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$5 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

Pastimes

By DAVID
QUILLET

X	O	S	L	R	C	O	C	N	S	A	E	S	L
X	S	S	C	L	O	H	O	A	T	C	A	F	A
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Tom Nicholson

By Eugene Sheffer

DOWN 19 Sounds of laughter
1 Road
Solution time: 25 mins.

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11
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53					54				55			

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Justine Bateman, Jeff Daniels, Smokey Robinson,
Lee Marvin

You will feel good about yourself if you make a contribution to help an organization you believe in. Get involved in this group and you will make new friends and possibly business partners. □□□□



You'll have to be careful when discussing personal matters. The people you think you know the best may surprise you today. Don't hide your feelings. □□



The unusual will draw your attention and lead to a chance meeting with someone who will help you do what you want to do. Travel for business or pleasure will lead to interesting conversations with strangers. □□□□□



Don't play the martyr or pay for things you aren't responsible for. Focus on what you need to do to make your life better. ☐☐☐



You and your partner can come up with a great idea that will be advantageous for both of you. Take care of the one you love. Don't neglect personal responsibilities. □□□



The focus is on work and money today, so don't waste time on futile pursuits. Dig in and do the best job possible. ☐☐☐



A new personal look will pay off in the way others respond to you. Reevaluate what it is you want for the future and what it will take to make it so. □□□□



You should be the one asking for favors and not the one always doing for everyone else. Sharing will play a very important role in how far you get today. □□



The chances are good that you will do well in the romance department, so make your plans to enjoy something special with the one you love. A belated Valentine gift might be the answer to the cold shoulder you've been receiving. □□□□



Money will have a wonderful idea regarding how you can make your investments grow or how you can turn your job around. Start your own business on the side and discover how resourceful you can be. □□□



You may be on edge if you haven't taken care of all the odds and ends plaguing you. Someone is likely to make you feel insecure about yourself. Get your feelings out in the open. ☐☐☐



Times are changing and you must prepare to do so as well. If something is no longer working for you, it's time to turn things around. Rid yourself of the things dragging you down. ☐☐☐

BIRTHDAY BABY: You are patient and tolerant and willing to take on whatever responsibilities are handed to you. You are a team player, efficient and well liked. You have what it takes to bring about change.

Check out Eugenia's Web sites at astroadvice.com and eugenialast.com.

By Bill Waterson

Test:

1999.

1. When did the Pilgrims land at Plymouth Rock?

AS YOU CAN SEE, I'VE MEMORIZED THIS INTER-
NETLESS FACT AND THROUGH
TO PASS A TEST QUESTION
I NOW INTEND TO FORGET
I'LL NEVER HAVE ANOTHER
ME NEETING EXCEPT HOW
TO CRIBBALLY MANIPULATE
MY SYSTEM, CONGRATULATIONS!

WHEN CAN THE SATISFACTION
OF TEACHING MAKE UP
FOR THE LOUSY PAY?

By Jim Davis

1. A man with a large, toothy grin looks at a grumpy-looking Garfield.

2. The man asks, "HOW ABOUT GIVING ME A BIG SMILE?" and Garfield thinks, "WHY?"

3. The man continues to smile broadly.

4. The man says, "YOU ALREADY HAVE ONE" and Garfield thinks, "YOU ALREADY HAVE ONE".

JIM DAVIS 2-4

By Bryan Basset

THAT WAS MY FIRST HOME OFFICE — BETWEEN THE DRYER AND THE WATER HEATER.

WHOA!... YOU'VE REALLY EXPANDED AS A HOME-BASED BUSINESS!

By Glenn McCoy

Round 1 to Thomas as Knicks beat Pacers



NEW YORK (AP)—Two of Isiah Thomas' acquisitions, Penny Hardaway and Stephon Marbury, made several big plays down the stretch Tuesday to lead the New York Knicks past the Pacers 97-90, ending Indiana's three-game winning streak.

"I knew he (Thomas) wanted this win real badly. We definitely did not want to let him down," Hardaway said. "I think he wanted to see how we were going to respond to a good team coming in here and see what we were going to do, and I think we stepped up to the challenge."

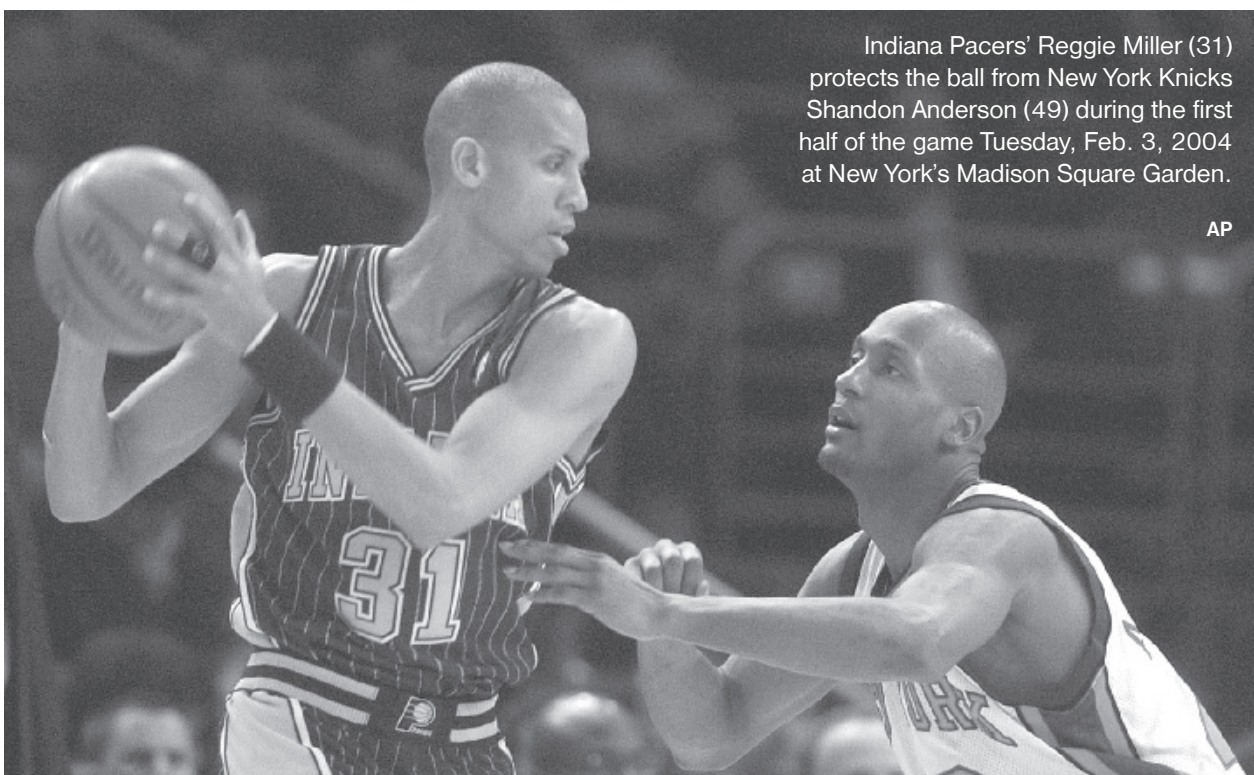
Hardaway had 14 points, including a clinching jumper with 17.2 seconds remaining, and Marbury had 23 points and eight assists. Keith Van Horn outplayed Ron Artest at small forward and had 20 points, 12 rebounds, three assists and two blocked shots, and Kurt Thomas added 19 points and 12 rebounds.

Artest had 19 points for the Pacers, who were coached by Thomas the past three seasons. Thomas was fired in August by new team president Larry Bird, and this was his former team's first time playing in his presence since it was eliminated in the first round of the playoffs last spring.

"It's not about me, it's about the players, and they played well tonight," Thomas said. "I have a tremendous amount of respect for the Pacers, they're a great team."

Cavaliers 85, Pistons 82

In Auburn Hills, Michigan, Carlos Boozer helped make up for LeBron James' poor shooting performance



Indiana Pacers' Reggie Miller (31) protects the ball from New York Knicks Shandon Anderson (49) during the first half of the game Tuesday, Feb. 3, 2004 at New York's Madison Square Garden.

AP

Tracy McGrady scored 34 points for the Magic, 26 over the second and third quarters.

Mavericks 107, Warriors 93

In Dallas, Michael Finley scored 23 points and reserve Antawn Jamison added 20 points and 12 rebounds as Dallas beat Golden State for the 20th straight time.

Steve Nash had 17 points and eight assists for the Mavericks, who ended a two-game skid and have won 10 of 12.

Dallas' Dirk Nowitzki, named as a reserve to Western Conference All-Star team earlier, finished with nine points, 12 under his season average. Antoine Walker and Josh Howard added 15 points each for the Mavericks.

Speedy Claxton and Jason Richardson had 20 points apiece to pace the Warriors, who last beat the Mavericks on April 10, 1999.

Kings 117, SuperSonics 101

In Sacramento, California, Brad Miller scored 14 of his 25 points in the third quarter as Sacramento beat Seattle for its fourth straight win.

Peja Stojakovic had 26 points for the Kings, who improved to 22-3 this season at Arco Arena.

Rashard Lewis led Seattle with 25 points, while Ray Allen added 23 points, five rebounds and five assists after being named to the All-Star team earlier in the day for the fourth time in his career.

The 2.13-meter (7-foot) Miller, selected to his second All-Star team along with Stojakovic, finished with 15 boards, five assists, a steal and a block.

Raptors 93, 76ers 80

In Philadelphia, Vince Carter had 15 of his 33 points in the fourth quarter as Toronto beat Philadelphia.

Donyell Marshall had 15 points and 14 rebounds, while Jalen Rose had 13 for the Raptors, who ended a two-game losing skid. Former Sixers player Jerome Moiso added 10 points and 11 rebounds, both season highs.

Allen Iverson had 36 points to lead the Sixers, who have lost nine of 11. Glenn Robinson added 18 and Kenny Thomas 15.

Carter had seven points on two jumpers and a 3-pointer during a 10-0 run that opened the fourth quarter and extended the Raptors' lead to 15.

Timberwolves 113, Magic 100

In Minneapolis, Kevin Garnett had 30 points and 14 rebounds, and Sam Cassell added 20 points and 10 assists to lead Minnesota over Orlando.

Latrell Sprewell added 25 points and seven assists for the Timberwolves, who won for the 13th time in 15 games — and 13th straight at home.

The Timberwolves struggled to put the Magic away until Garnett re-entered the game with 9 minutes to go and his team up 87-82.

Garnett then scored eight points during Minnesota's 10-2 run. Cassell hit a 3-pointer and later converted a three-point play to give the Wolves a 105-88 lead.

Knight rapped for spat with chancellor

By BETSY BLANEY
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

LUBBOCK, Texas (AP) -- Bob Knight was reprimanded, but not suspended, on Tuesday for his loud public outburst at Texas Tech chancellor David Smith.

After coaching his No. 19 Red Raiders over Baylor 83-63, Knight said there had been discussions about a suspension. The coach also admitted he could've avoided the episode by simply walking away from Smith.

"I regret that the situation turned out the way it did," Knight said earlier in a four-paragraph news release. "I look forward to finishing this season in a strong fashion and I am glad the situation is behind me so that I can return to the business of coaching."

Tech athletic director Gerald Myers said in a statement that "appropriate personnel action" was taken regarding Monday's verbal spat at an upscale grocery store.

As Knight left the court after Tuesday night's home win, the crowd cheered loudly and he acknowledged the fans by raising his right hand in appreciation.

After the game, Knight said he talked with his wife Monday night about how he would've handled a suspension.

Knight said he would have gone "through whatever means were available to fight that, but I would have



Texas Tech coach Bob Knight yells in the first half of the game against Baylor in Lubbock, Texas, Tuesday, Feb. 3, 2004.

stayed through the suspension simply because I feel so strongly about this situation, this school, this community and these kids and that would not have been easy for me to do, but I would have done it with them."

In his version of the spat, Knight said Smith followed him to the side of the salad bar and said, "You've got issues. What are they?"

"Right then is where I think I was at fault," Knight said. "I should have shook my head, walked away, done a lot of other things, and I didn't. I went on to tell him what one of those issues was and then it got back and forth a little bit."

"But the one thing there was, that I absolutely did not instigate anything."

Before the game, Knight received a rousing ovation when he came onto the court a couple of minutes earlier than usual. Even a Baylor assistant, standing under the basket during warmups, applauded as Knight walked out and shook hands with the coach.

A row of students near the Tech bench wore red T-shirts with white lettering that read, "Lettuce Support Coach Knight"—a reference to rumors that lettuce had been thrown during the spat.

Xavier upends No. 10 Cincinnati, 71-69

By JOE KAY
AP SPORTS WRITER



CINCINNATI (AP)—Lionel Chalmers scored 20 points, including a fadeaway jumper with 27 seconds left Tuesday night, leading Xavier to a 71-69 victory over No. 10 Cincinnati.

The Musketeers (11-9) pulled off another stunning upset of their crosstown rival by getting big games from their two senior guards.

Chalmers repeatedly drove to the basket and made floating jumpers over the outstretched arms of the Bearcats' brawnier front line. Romain Sato added 18 points and went 9-of-10 from the free throw line.

Cincinnati (15-3) has lost six of its last eight games against Xavier, which usually plays its best against its closest rival. That eight-year stretch includes two upsets when Cincinnati was ranked No. 1.

Chalmers made a 3-pointer that tied it for the third and final time in the second half. Two minutes later, he stepped back from a double-team and made an 18-foot jumper for a 70-69 lead with 27 seconds left.

Cincinnati then threw away a chance for the last shot. Nick Williams' cross-court pass for Armein Kirkland flew

over his head with 4.9 seconds left, Cincinnati's 18th turnover.

Chalmers was fouled and missed two free throws, but Eric Hicks knocked the ball out of bounds as he tussled with Sato for the rebound, keeping the ball in Xavier's hands. The buzzer went off as players for both teams scrambled for a loose inbounds pass.

Tony Bobbitt scored 17 points for Cincinnati, which has lost three of its last five games after a 13-0 start.

Xavier's struggles this season — five losses in its previous six games — took some of the luster but none of the emotion out of the annual rivalry.

Cincinnati coach Bob Huggins stirred it up the last few days by saying Xavier's fans were the most profane he'd ever encountered. Xavier officials apologized for the student section's conduct after that game, but were miffed when Huggins brought it up again this week.

The two school presidents sat together on the Xavier bench during warmups, chatting and sharing a few laughs. The Rev. Michael Graham of Xavier then walked to midcourt and asked the crowd of 10,250 to applaud new Cincinnati president Nancy Zimpher.

The crowd went silent as the home team fumbled around in the opening minutes.

Boston fetes Super Bowl champion Patriots

By JAY LINDSAY
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER



B O S T O N (AP)—The New England Patriots held high their second Super Bowl trophy in three seasons before a raucous downtown crowd Tuesday, celebrating a championship that was as thrilling as the first one.

“We’re baaack!” Brady told a shoulder-to-shoulder crowd in City Hall Plaza, standing with team owner Robert Kraft, coach Bill Belichick and dozens of teammates amid a hail of red, white and blue confetti.

Brady and Kraft hoisted the twin Super Bowl trophies as they led a parade to City Hall before hundreds of thousands of fans.

Kraft and Belichick praised the players’ “no-stars” work ethic that led to a season-ending streak of 15 straight wins and Sunday’s 32-29 victory over the Carolina Panthers.

“For a team to accomplish their goals, everybody’s got to give up a little of their individuality, and that’s what these players did, and that’s why they’re champions,” Belichick said.

In a repeat of the 2002 Super Bowl celebration, Kraft, Brady and Belichick did a victory dance for the crowd, egged on by All-Pro cornerback Ty Law.

No starting quarterback has ever won two Super Bowls faster than the 26-year-old Brady, who said he’s looking for more.

“One was nice, two’s a lot nicer, but I need number three,” said Brady, a two-time Super Bowl MVP.

Fans weren’t shy about predicting more success Tuesday.



New England Patriot fans fill Boston City Hall Plaza, Tuesday, Feb. 3, 2004 as they celebrate the Super Bowl champions during a victory parade and rally in downtown Boston.

Chris Cashen, a painter from Rockland, said he’s already asked his boss for time off for next year’s celebration.

“This team was a joke for so long,” he said. “(Now) we’re frustrating the rest of the league. I think we’ll see another parade next year. That’s my plan.”

Jason Scheinbart of Burlington, Vt., said the Patriots proved their last Super Bowl victory wasn’t a fluke.

“Now every team in the world that wants to win the Super Bowl has to go through Foxboro, Massachusetts,” he said.

Boston police estimated a total crowd of 1.5 million. Police made seven arrests, most for disorderly conduct. Eighty-seven people were injured but none seriously, Boston EMS Chief Richard Serino said.

The party started early for thousands of revelers, who began streaming into City Hall Plaza before dawn, some wearing face paint, wigs and Revolutionary-era militia outfits. By midday, the plaza was jammed. Some young women bared their breasts or kissed each other to the cheers of the crowd; plastic bottles were thrown; and some scuffles broke out. But the crowd settled down and cheered as images from the parade were broadcast on huge screens.

Patriots players waved and videotaped the crowd as they traveled the 1 1/2-mile parade route from Copley Plaza to City Hall in “Duck Boats,” Boston’s famous amphibious tourist vehicles.

Spectators were stacked 10 deep along both sides of Tremont Street by Boston Common. Some

fans stood on mailboxes and others leaned out of office windows, holding signs and screaming.

The rally even drew Carolina fan Craig Whitney of Hampton, N.H. He wore his Panthers cap proudly.

“Even though we lost, it was still the greatest football game I’ve ever seen,” he said.

High school students Sheila Gill and Dena Norton of Medfield waited for a glimpse of Brady and receiver Troy Brown.

“We skipped school,” Norton said. “But we’ll do anything to support the Patriots.”

Jenny Callahan, a Wentworth Institute of Technology student from Florida, came with about 10 friends. She had “Go Pats” written in blue on one side of her face, with Brady’s No. 12 on the other.

Marino changes mind, resigns as Dolphins’ senior VP

By TIM REYNOLDS
AP SPORTS WRITER



MIAMI (AP)—Dan Marino’s visit was a surprise to Wayne Huizenga. The purpose of it was even more stunning.

Five weeks removed from asking for an executive position with the Miami Dolphins and only three weeks after accepting the senior vice president job created solely for him, Marino resigned Tuesday and left the team he quarterbacked for 17 seasons.

As recently as Sunday, Marino denied reports saying he was having second thoughts about assuming control of the Dolphins’ football operations. But at 2:45 p.m. Tuesday, he made an unannounced visit to Huizenga’s office and quit, spurning attempts the owner made to change his mind.

“I heard about it on the television a couple of days ago, but I didn’t believe it,” Huizenga said. “Needless to say, we’re disappointed. Dan is a great guy and we like him a lot. He would have been good for this organization.”

A telephone message left



Former Miami Dolphins quarterback Dan Marino talks to members of the media during a news conference in this Jan. 12, 2004 file photo, in Davie, Fla.

at Marino’s home was not returned. A woman who answered the phone and refused to give her name said he could not be reached, and it was believed Ma-

rino was traveling to New York to tape a Super Bowl wrapup show for HBO’s “Inside the NFL.”

“I have decided that it would not be in the best interests of ei-

ther my family or the Dolphins to assume the role as the team’s senior vice president of football operations,” Marino said in a statement released by the team.

Marino played for the Dolphins from 1983-99 and took them to the 1985 Super Bowl, which they lost to San Francisco. He holds NFL records with 61,361 yards passing and 420 touchdown passes.

He planned to leave his analyst jobs at CBS Sports and HBO to come back to the Dolphins, beginning a full-time role next week. Marino had been part of at least one team personnel meeting and was at the Senior Bowl in Mobile, Ala., for one day, but never took control of the football operations.

Don Strock, Marino’s close friend and former backup at quarterback, said the timing of rejoining the Dolphins might have been wrong for Marino.

“He’s his own man,” Strock said. “I’m sure his family became involved, and they decided what was best for them. He has to do what is right. But I know one day — I don’t know when — he’s going to be back in football.”

Tribune Sports Scores

NBA STANDINGS					SOUTHWEST
EASTERN CONFERENCE Atlantic Division					McMurry 71, Hardin-Simmons 63
					Oklahoma St. 91, Texas A&M 79
					Southern Miss. 75, Houston 72, 3OT
					Texas Tech 83, Baylor 63
					FAR WEST
					No scores reported from the FAR WEST.
					EXHIBITION
					St. Cloud St. 88, Crossroads 74
Central Division					SPORTS TRANSACTIONS
Indiana	36	14	.720	—	MLB
Detroit	33	17	.660	3	DETROIT TIGERS -Designated RHP Chris Mears for assignment.
Milwaukee	26	21	.553	8 1-2	TAMPA BAY DEVIL RAYS -Agreed to terms with RHP Jesus Colome, RHP Carlos Hines, RHP Jason Standridge, RHP Doug Waechter, RHP Alec Zumwalt and LHP Mark Hendrickson on one-year contracts.
New Orleans	26	22	.542	9	
Toronto	22	24	.478	12	
Cleveland	19	29	.396	16	
Atlanta	15	34	.306	20 1-2	
Chicago	13	36	.265	22 1-2	
WESTERN CONFERENCE					NBA
Midwest Division					CLEVELAND CAVALIERS -Placed F-C Tony Battie on the injured list. Activated G-F Jason Kapono from the injured list.
Minnesota	34	13	.723	—	NEW ORLEANS HORNETS -Announced the resignation of Alex Martins, senior vice president of marketing and branding. Announced John Lee, vice president of sales, will assist in the team's marketing efforts.
San Antonio	32	18	.640	3 1-2	NEW YORK KNICKS -Placed G Allan Houston on the injured list. Signed G DerMarr Johnson to a 10-day contract.
Dallas	30	18	.625	4 1-2	PORTLAND TRAIL BLAZERS -Signed G Omar Cook to a 10-day contract.
Denver	29	21	.580	6 1-2	
Houston	26	21	.553	8	
Memphis	26	21	.553	8	
Utah	24	24	.500	10 1-2	
Pacific Division					NFL
Sacramento	34	12	.739	—	BUFFALO BILLS -Named Steve Szabo defensive backs coach.
L.A. Lakers	28	17	.622	5 1-2	CHICAGO BEARS -Named Harold Goodwin assistant offensive line coach.
Seattle	23	24	.489	11 1-2	DETROIT LIONS -Re-signed RB Paul Smith to a two-year contract.
L.A. Clippers	21	25	.457	13	GREEN BAY PACKERS -Signed OL Steve Morley.
Portland	21	25	.457	13	MIAMI DOLPHINS -Announced the resignation of Dan Marino, senior vice president of football operations.
Golden State	20	27	.426	14 1-2	MINNESOTA VIKINGS -Named Kurtis Shultz strength and conditioning coach.
Phoenix	18	32	.360	18	WASHINGTON REDSKINS -Named Gregg Williams assistant head coach-defense, Greg Blache defensive coordinator and defensive line coach, Joe Bugel assistant head coach-offense, Don Breaux offensive coordinator, Ernie Zampese consultant-offense, Danny Smith special teams coach, Earnest Byner running backs coach, Jack Burns quarterbacks coach, Rennie Simmons tight ends coach, Stan Hixon receivers coach, Bill Lazor offensive assistant, Coy Gibbs quality control coach-offense, Dale Lindsey linebackers coach, DeWayne Walker secondary-cornerbacks coach, Steve Jackson third down-safeties coach, Kirk Olivadotti defensive and special teams assistant coach, John Dunn head strength and conditioning coach, John Hastings strength and conditioning coach, Bobby Crumpler assistant strength and conditioning coach, Bubba Tyer director of sports medicine and John Burrell head athletic trainer.
MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL					COLLEGE
EAST					BALL STATE -Named Jeff Hecklinski wide receivers coach, Ed Stults offensive coordinator, Aaron Wellman director of strength and conditioning-football and Brent Baldwin passing game coordinator.
C.W. Post 70, Mercy, N.Y. 56					BRIARCLIFFE -Named Don Mackay men's basketball coach and Ken Martinez women's basketball coach.
Clark U. 85, Worcester Tech 56					GEORGIA TECH -Named Patrick Nix offensive coordinator, Buddy Gies assistant coach, Giff Smith defensive line coach and Brian Jean-Mary linebackers coach.
Colby-Sawyer 105, Wentworth Tech 74					INDIANA STATE -Named Malik Tabet women's tennis coach.
Concordia, N.Y. 82, Dowling 76					NORFOLK STATE -Named Wayne Dickens offensive coordinator.
E. Connecticut 78, Curry 68					OKLAHOMA STATE -Suspended freshman F Marcus Dove and junior F Tremaine Fuqua indefinitely from the men's basketball team for violating team policy.
Emerson 70, Emmanuel 64					STANFORD -Named Ken Margerum wide receivers coach.
Endicott 73, New England 60					TEMPLE -Named David Jones women's soccer coach.
Fredonia St. 62, Buffalo St. 61					
Gordon 80, New England Coll. 62					
Massachusetts 74, Rider 61					
Oswego St. 85, New Paltz 54					
Potsdam 67, St. Lawrence 58					
Rhode Island Coll. 68, Salve Regina 64					
St. Peter's 68, Siena 59					
Stevens Tech 69, Centenary, N.J. 62					
Tufts 96, Keene St. 94					
Union, N.Y. 78, Skidmore 74					
Utica 87, Keuka 61					
Utica Tech 68, Cortland St. 64					
Vassar 67, Bard 50					
Westfield St. 84, Albertus Magnus 64					
Worcester St. 61, Fitchburg St. 58					
SOUTH					
Albany, Ga. 105, LeMoyn-Owen 54					
Benedict College 89, Paine 78					
Brescia 62, Cumberland, Tenn. 60					
Cirleville Bible 119, Kentucky Christian 106					
Davidson 67, The Citadel 49					
East Carolina 59, South Florida 57					
Fayetteville St. 100, N.C. Central 87					
Florida Gulf Coast 82, Ala.-Huntsville 71					
Florida St. 81, Georgia Tech 65					
Fort Valley St. 75, Miles 56					
Huntingdon 73, Pensacola Christian 67					
Kentucky 68, Florida 65					
King, Tenn. 75, Montreat 65					
Morehead St. 74, E. Kentucky 67					
Pfeiffer 106, Queens, N.C. 102					
Tenn. Wesleyan 73, Milligan 68					
Tuskegee 77, Kentucky St. 74					
Virginia St. 76, Johnson C. Smith 72					
MIDWEST					
Bellevue 73, Park 66					
Concordia, Wis. 89, Marian, Wis. 85					
DePaul 72, Tulane 58					
Edgewood 78, Wis. Lutheran 54					
Evangel 64, Coll. of the Ozarks 59					
Grace 78, St. Francis, Ind. 74					
Huntington 77, Goshen 59					
Illinois 51, Indiana 49					
Lawrence 85, St. Norbert 50					
Malone 86, Urbana 69					
Maranatha Baptist 61, Milwaukee Engineering 60					
Northern St., S.D. 78, Minn.-Crookston 75, OT					
S. Illinois 59, SW Missouri St. 52					
South Dakota 83, Hastings 51					
St. Francis, Ill. 69, Olivet Nazarene 67					
TCU 85, Marquette 79					
Taylor 69, Marian, Ind. 59					
Wis.-La Crosse 67, Wis.-Eau Claire 66					
Wis.-Platteville 63, Wis.-Oshkosh 55					
Wis.-River Falls 70, Wis.-Stevens Pt. 59					
Wis.-Stout 73, Wis.-Superior 59					
Xavier 71, Cincinnati 69					

By The Associated Press

By The Associated Press

SPORTS BRIEFS

MBL 40+ meeting this Saturday

The Masters Basketball League 40-and-over tournament will hold an important meeting this Saturday, February 7, 1pm at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Pick up games are also scheduled right after the meeting and all interested participants are invited to come and join. MBL is gearing up to kick off the league by the third week of the current month.

For more inquiries, please contact BANMI president Elias Rangamar at 664-2500, Tony Rogolifo at 664-2508 or BANMI public information officer Abner Venus at 287-5911. *(Mark Rabago)*

Bud Cup starts Feb. 10

The Budweiser Cup or Men's Island-wide Basketball League will begin this coming Monday, February 9, at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

A total of seven teams have signed up to participate in the tournament. The team that emerges as championship gets \$1,000 cash, while second and third place will take home \$300 and \$200, respectively. The Budweiser Cup will also hold side events like a half court shootout and a three-point contest.

For more information on the Budweiser Cup, please contact BANMI PIO Abner Venus at 287-5911 or BANMI president Elias Rangamar at 664-2500. *(Mark Rabago)*

Saipan Softball Association to hold two leagues this month

The Saipan Softball Association will begin the Men's 35-and-Up Slow Pitch Softball League and the Men's Slow Pitch Softball Business League this February 16 at the Susupe Softball Field.

All interested players, managers, coaches, and teams are encouraged to begin preparations for the two leagues, which both require an \$800 entrance fee from each team.

An organizational meeting for both leagues will be held this Tuesday, February 10, at 5:30 pm at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium conference room at which time entrance fees, team rosters, and other fees will be due.

For more information regarding the above matters, contact association president Robert A. Guerrero at 888-0215, league coordinator Liz Palacios at 235-9890, or association treasurer Peding Tenorio at 322-9982/3. *(Shan Seman)*

Boxers wanted for international bouts

Philmar Pacific International Promotions, LTD. will promote international bouts this February 28 at the Garapan Central Park.

Dubbed the Thrilla on Saipan, the event will not only feature fighters from the CNMI, but also topnotch contenders from Korea, Thailand, and the Philippines.

Amateur boxing will serve as preliminary fights leading up to the main event. The event is scheduled to get underway at 6pm and will last until all fights have concluded.

For more information or to register, please contact Al Taitano at 234-1734 (home), 234-8607/09 (work), or 483-2969 (cellular). *(Shan Seman)*

TAGA

From Page 28

of Kazumi Imai and Yuko Kobayashi reigned supreme in the women's open. Second place went to Letty Jones and Delia Johnson.

Mixed doubles winners were second place Phil Kalen and Vivian Lee in the 3.0, 4.0 winners Ralph Buenaventura and Joy Minor, open champions Imai and Dunlop and the second place team of Sally Wong and Felipe Quiroz.

Singles winners include Elemen Solomon, Dr. Richard Brostrom, Nanding Cajigan, Felipe Quiroz, Mayuko Arriola, and Letty Jones. The runner-ups in the singles were Naruse, Toz Beltau, Gerald Narciso, Eli Buenaventura, Flor Jones, Kanan Ashraf, and Delia Johnson.

Pangelinan said despite the shipping snafus involving the delivery of the trophies, the Taga Tennis Tournament still was a successful event. He also thanked Pacific Trading Co. and Miller Lite for sponsoring the tournament.

IVYBL

From Page 28

announced at the later part of last year that the IVYBL will be organizing only one tournament beginning in 2004.

For the past years, organizers have always held the IVYBL twice a year, with the first season taking place during the summer and the shorter second season beginning in December.

Mettao said the two-season

format per year was shelved because of the proliferation of other youth leagues for baseball and basketball on Saipan.

The IVYBL charges an entrance fee of \$100 and teams are required to submit documents verifying the ages of players.

In the last IVYBL, the sweet shooting of guard L.J. Reyes and inside of presence forward Jesse Garcia led the Chalan Kanoa Saints to a 68-65 victory over the Garapan Rollers I in the finals.

Mobil sure of Tuesday start for invitational

By MARK RABAGO
REPORTER

Mobil Save for a few knocks on the new scoreboard, the 2004 season of the Mobil Oil Marianas Invitational Co-ed Basketball Tournament is about ready for its February 10 start.

According to Basketball Association of the Northern Mariana Islands public information officer Abner Venus, the opening will be held at exactly 6pm at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

He is requesting all participating teams to come on time, as the tournament will be holding its customary parade of teams.

Defending champion Pacific Development Inc. leads this year's 10-team strong tournament, which is the only league on Saipan to require participating squads to field women players in games.

Aside from PDI, other teams coming back for the new season are Microl-Toyota, 2001 champion Tan Holding Corp., Aqua Resort Club, Dai-Ichi Saipan Beach Hotel, Hyatt Regency Saipan, Commonwealth Utilities Corp., Commonwealth Ports Authority, Pacific Islands Aviation, and host Mobil.

Of the 10 teams mentioned, Aqua Resort has made the biggest moves in the off-season, signing up 6'3" center Delvin Cortez and 6'0" playmaker Marco Garcia. Also expected to suit up for the hotel is former Tan Holdings swingman Bogs Dayrit.

The three will join a core that is already made up of point guard Rodel Alcantara and center Cris Bojocan.

Also expected to be a dark horse this year is PIA. Despite the loss of playmaker Rick Alegre, the team has retained bonafide all-stars Robert "Onyok" Tamondong, Gary Rapanut, and Rod De Lara.

Another threat is 2002 Champion Toyota. The Microl team is made up of 2002 MVP Jorge De Guzman, and holdovers Rodney



SHAN SEMAN

Hyatt Regency Saipan spitfire Bing Marasigan goes up for a tough shot against Pacific Development Inc. in a file photo from the 2003 season.

Catalla, Lawrence Pantola, James Abuy and John Capuyon.

CUC, meanwhile, scored a coup of sorts when it lured jumping jack Jawn Joyner away from CPA to play center for the team.

Joyner will team with CUC resident scorer Derrick Reyes, and guards George Poquiz and Joe "Kamikaze" Camacho.

Dai-Ichi, meanwhile, will continue to rely on the Mutt-and-Jeff combination of forward Tom Alegre and playmaker Adonis Macoto. Other key players for the hoteliers are Jeruel Zamora, Jhun Alipala and center Roland Galag. Hyatt

hopes to get the most of Bing Marasigan and Cris Calub.

Tan Holdings is fielding a team composed of 6'4" tower Colin Thompson, sweet-shooting forward Jun Tabora, and guard Ariel Jinang, while CPA will have to rely on big guns Charlie Sablan and Mel Tagabuel.

Last year, PDI leaned on scoring machine Shiho Kashiwagi's 59-point explosion to turn back a Beverly Igitol-led Mobil team in the finals, 104-101. Others who made up the champion team were playoff MVP Manny Guimalan, forward Edwin Catilo, and under-rated center Joel Guinto.

Mobil, who also had shooting ace Andres "Jun" Estolas and Junar Guiab in its line-up settled for runner-up honors, while then newcomer PIA took third place.

Contrary to earlier reports, Igitol will continue to don the Mobil jersey in the fourth season of the co-ed league. Igitol is fresh from taking home a mythical five selection in last year's Micronesian Basketball League in Palau.

For more information about the upcoming Mobil cage league, please contact Mobil's Jojo Dadvivas at 483-3363 or Venus at 287-5991.

SHAQ

From Page 28

no chance."

James, the phenomenal 19-year-old rookie whose play has improved throughout the season, seemed to be the most glaring omission in the East—even in a conference stocked with talented guards.

Redd is averaging 22.1 points for the surprising Milwaukee Bucks, Pierce is the league's sixth-leading scorer (22.9) for Boston, Davis of New Orleans had the league's fifth-highest average (23.2), and Kidd has led New Jersey to first place in the Atlantic Division.

"He's been phenomenal for this league and for our sport," Pistons coach Larry Brown said of James. "He's done everything a young kid can do, but I think the fact that his team was down

so far early probably hurt him. I don't think it was a backlash. There are just a lot of talented kids at that position."

Starters for the league's 53rd All-Star game, selected in fan balloting, are Vince Carter of Toronto, Tracy McGrady of Orlando, Ben Wallace of Detroit, Jermaine O'Neal of Indiana and Allen Iverson of Philadelphia for the East; Yao Ming of Houston, Kobe Bryant of the Lakers, Kevin Garnett of Minnesota, Steve Francis of Houston and Tim Duncan of San Antonio for the West.

Minnesota's Flip Saunders will coach the West, and Rick Carlisle of the Pacers will coach the East.

James is averaging 20.8 points, 5.9 assists and 5.9 rebounds for the Cleveland Cavaliers, whose surge of six victories in eight games has moved them into contention for

a playoff spot in the East.

He is 13th in the NBA in scoring and 12th in assists, averaging 24.1 points since Cleveland traded Ricky Davis to Boston in mid-December. James, Pierce, Allen and McGrady are the only players averaging at least 20 points, five rebounds and five assists.

Coaches had to choose a center, two forwards, two guards and two others regardless of position. They could not vote for their own players.

"I can't understand the reason he didn't make it," Cleveland coach Paul Silas said. "Maybe it was because of our record. But he certainly put up the numbers comparable to any guard that got picked."

"I feel that everything happens for a reason and that this will turn out for the best. He's going to make a lot of All-Star games before he's done, and this will

keep him humble," Silas said.

There will be six All-Stars with international roots - Kirilenko (Russia), Stojakovic (Serbia and Montenegro), Magloire (Canada) Nowitzki (Germany), Yao (China) and Duncan (U.S. Virgin Islands) - which ties the record set a year ago.

James will play alongside Carmelo Anthony of Denver in the Rookie Challenge on Friday night against a team of second-year players that includes Yao.

NBA commissioner David Stern will select a replacement if any of the All-Stars withdraws because of injury, but James is not interested.

"I wasn't part of the ones that they picked at first, so I wouldn't even like to be a part of the team if somebody didn't go," James said. "I'm an only child and I never want to be picked second. I don't come second."



Round 1 to Thomas as Knicks beat Pacers

Two of Isiah Thomas' acquisitions, Penny Hardaway and Stephon Marbury, made several big plays down the stretch Tuesday to lead the New York Knicks past the Pacers 97-90, ending Indiana's three-game winning streak.

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Saipan Tribune Sports

Mobil sure of Tuesday start for invitational

Save for a few knacks on the new scoreboard, the 2004 season of the Mobil Oil Marianas Invitational Co-ed Basketball Tournament is about ready for its February 10 start.

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Taga winners finally get trophies

By MARK RABAGO
REPORTER

The Saipan Tennis Association finally handed out championship and runner-up trophies the association was unable to give out last December in an impromptu barbeque and get-together last Saturday at the American Memorial Park tennis courts.

STA president Roy Pangelinan said that shipping problems resulted in the trophies meant for its 1st Annual Taga Tennis Tournament being delivered somewhere in India; that caused the close to two-month delay in the arrival of the hardware on Saipan.

It could be recalled that Pangelinan, STA adviser Dr. Bert Ventura, and vice president Nelia Luna were stuck with only a handful of trophies during the tournament's awards banquet last December 20 and this forced them to instead hand "promissory" certificates to the winners.

"It all turned out well in the end. I would like to thank the membership of STA and especially the winners and second place players for their patience," said Pangelinan.

Ligaya Paculanang, who won a total of four trophies in the December tournament, said she was just happy that STA members finally got to see each other again.

"The trophies are really secondary. I'm just glad that the camaraderie



MARK RABAGO

Champion and runner-up players of the Saipan Tennis Association's 1st Annual Taga Tennis Tournament line up for a snapshot during a "second" awards ceremony last Saturday at the American Memorial Park tennis courts.

within the group is still alive and this "second" awarding is a great excuse for us to get together again," she said.

The cook from Country House paired with Mina Solomon to win the

women's 3.0 doubles and collaborated with Archie Monticillo to take home the mixed doubles 3.0. She also took runner-up honors in the women's 4.0 and mixed doubles 4.0 with Cleofe

Santos and Buddy Garote serving as her partners.

Arlene Osma, for her part, jokingly admitted that she was a bit envious of the trophies, because unlike her, they

were able to "visit" India.

Osma won runner-up trophies and a 3.0 singles championship. She teamed up with Agnes Salazar for a runner-up finish in the women's doubles 3.0 and then did the same playing with Nelia Luna in the 4.0.

"Everyone seems to be taking the delay in a good light," said Luna. "It really shows how tight knit and understanding this group of people really are."

Ventura, meanwhile, said that he agreed with Paculanang when she said that another awards ceremony for the Taga Tournament was indeed not that bad, and actually gives members an opportunity to catch up with one another.

"I haven't seen some these guys since December. It's nice to know that everyone seems to be OK and doing great this year," he said.

Other winners of the Taga Tennis Tournament were John Wayne and Hiob Naruse in the men's doubles 3.0 and the second place team of Hector Benitez and Emil Gara. Elmer Guzman and Ronnie Lachbayo in the men's doubles 4.0 and the second place team of Edwin Maratas and George Olanda. Eli Buenaventura and Alex Martin in the men's 40-and-over division and the second place team of Don Dunlop and Jack McClure. Roy Pangelinan and Felipe Quiroz in the men's open and the second place team of Ed Johnson and Lito Cabrera.

Over in the women's side, the pair

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Shaq in, LeBron out of NBA All-Star game

By CHRIS SHERIDAN
AP BASKETBALL WRITER

NEW YORK (AP)—LeBron James didn't make the cut.

James was not among the 14 reserves announced Tuesday for the All-Star game, the talented rookie getting outpolled in voting by Eastern Conference coaches who instead selected guards Paul Pierce, Michael Redd, Baron Davis and Jason Kidd.

"Not making it just tells me I've got to work harder," said James, one of only four players leaguewide averaging at least 20 points, five rebounds and five assists. "I've been earning a lot of things this year—earning the respect of players, the respect of refs. That's another thing I've got to earn, to be a part of the elite group."

Shaquille O'Neal of the Los Angeles Lakers was among the Western Conference reserves for the league's showcase event Feb. 15 in Los Angeles.

Other West reserves are Dirk Nowitzki of Dallas, Peja Stojakovic and Brad

Miller of Sacramento, Sam Cassell of Minnesota, Andrei Kirilenko of Utah and Ray Allen of Seattle.

The other East reserves are Jamaal Magloire of New Orleans, Ron Artest of Indiana and Kenyon Martin of New Jersey.

"Not a bad thing to be on your resume, All-Star in front of your name," said Martin, one of six players who will make their first All-Star appearance.

Other players having strong seasons who did not make the All-Stars include Mike Bibby of Sacramento, Latrell Sprewell of Minnesota, Chauncey Billups and Richard Hamilton of Detroit, Michael Finley of Dallas and Zach Randolph of Portland.

The selection of Allen was one of the most surprising after he missed the first 25 games of the season following ankle surgery.

"I would rather be in L.A. than any place in the country," said Allen, who had planned a getaway to Las Vegas with teammate Antonio Daniels. "It's a bragging right. ... I totally thought I had

See SHAQ on Page 27



AP

Los Angeles Lakers' Shaquille O'Neal dunks for a basket during the first half against the Seattle SuperSonics, Wednesday night, Jan. 28, 2004, in Los Angeles.

IVYBL set to begin in March

By MARK RABAGO
REPORTER

The 7th season of the Island-wide Village Youth Basketball League is expected to begin in early or mid March and the Division of Sports and Recreation is urging participating teams to prepare.

League coordinator Joe Mettao also said that the IVYBL will be having an organizational meeting on February 25 to decide the kick-off date for the 14-and-under basketball tournament.

The organizational meeting is set at 5:30pm at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium conference room. For more information on the upcoming IVYBL please call Mettao or Joe Lizama at 664-2500/08 during business hours.

It could be recalled that Mettao

See IVYBL on Page 27